

107TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. R. 841

To suspend for two years the certification procedures under section 490(b) of the Foreign Assistance Act of 1961 in order to foster greater multilateral cooperation in international counternarcotics programs, and for other purposes.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

MARCH 1, 2001

Mr. REYES introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on International Relations

A BILL

To suspend for two years the certification procedures under section 490(b) of the Foreign Assistance Act of 1961 in order to foster greater multilateral cooperation in international counternarcotics programs, and for other purposes.

1 *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representa-*
2 *tives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

3 **SECTION 1. TWO-YEAR SUSPENSION OF DRUG CERTIFI-**
4 **CATION PROCEDURES.**

5 (a) FINDINGS.—Congress makes the following find-
6 ings:

1 (1) Drug trafficking is a transnational phe-
2 nomenon and thus requires international cooperation
3 to fight and defeat this problem.

4 (2) The international drug trade poses a direct
5 threat to the United States and to international ef-
6 forts to promote democracy, economic stability,
7 human rights, and the rule of law.

8 (3) Illegal drug use occurs among members of
9 every ethnic and socioeconomic group in the United
10 States.

11 (4) Worldwide drug trafficking generates reve-
12 nues estimated at \$400,000,000,000 annually.

13 (5) The annual drug certification procedures
14 under section 490 of the Foreign Assistance Act of
15 1961 is a unilateral process that hampers inter-
16 national cooperation and its main result has been
17 confrontation between governments rather than co-
18 operation.

19 (6) Such unilateral review is counter to the
20 principle of equality among nations and contradicts
21 the spirit of cooperation between nations.

22 (7) Countries must address drug trafficking by
23 coordinating their efforts, particularly through peri-
24 odic meetings of senior government officials and de-

1 veloping appropriate anti-drug strategies while re-
2 specting the sovereignty of nations.

3 (b) SENSE OF CONGRESS.—It is the sense of Con-
4 gress that—

5 (1) many governments are extremely concerned
6 with the national security threat posed by illicit drug
7 production, distribution, and consumption, and
8 crimes related thereto, particularly those in the
9 Western Hemisphere;

10 (2) an enhanced multilateral strategy should be
11 developed among drug producing, transit, and con-
12 suming nations designed to improve cooperation with
13 respect to the investigation and prosecution of drug
14 related crimes, and to make available information on
15 effective drug education and drug treatment;

16 (3) the President should at the earliest feasible
17 date in 2001 convene a conference of heads of state
18 of major illicit drug producing countries, major drug
19 transit countries, and major money laundering coun-
20 tries to present and review country by country drug
21 reduction and prevention strategies relevant to the
22 specific circumstances of each country, and agree to
23 a program and timetable for implementation of such
24 strategies; and

1 (4) not later than one year after the date of the
2 enactment of this Act, the President should transmit
3 to Congress legislation to implement a proposed
4 multilateral strategy to achieve the goals referred to
5 in paragraph (2), including any amendments to ex-
6 isting law that may be required to implement that
7 strategy.

8 (c) TWO-YEAR SUSPENSION OF DRUG CERTIFI-
9 CATION PROCESS.—(1) Subsections (a) through (g) of sec-
10 tion 490 of the Foreign Assistance Act of 1961 (22 U.S.C.
11 2291j), relating to annual certification procedures for as-
12 sistance for certain drug producing countries and drug
13 transit countries, shall not apply in the first two calendar
14 years beginning after the date of enactment of this Act.

15 (2) Notwithstanding any provision of paragraph (1),
16 section 489 of the Foreign Assistance Act of 1961 (22
17 U.S.C. 2291h), relating to the international narcotics con-
18 trol strategy report, and section 490(h) of that Act (22
19 U.S.C. 2291j(h)), relating to determinations of major
20 drug transit countries and major illicit drug producing
21 countries, shall continue to apply in the two calendar years
22 referred to in that paragraph.

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